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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF REGISTRATION
OF BARBERS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1938

DIVISION OF REGISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE AND REGISTRATION



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE AND REGISTRATION BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF BARBERS

Room 302, 14 Beacon Street, Boston.

November 30, 1938.

To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

The Board of Registration of Barbers herewith submits its seventh annual report:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(December 1, 1937 to November 30, 1938.)

15 renewals for 1937 @ \$2.00	\$	30.00
9,864 renewals for 1938 @ \$2.00	\$19,728.00	
Less 1 refund	2.00	19,726.00
81 renewals for 1939 @ \$2.00		162.00
3 1937 apprentice renewals @ 50c		1.50
465 1938 apprentice renewals @ 50c	\$ 232.50	
Less 2 refunds	1.00	231.50
219 Applications for examination @ \$10.00	\$2,190.00	
Less 2 refunds	20.00	2,170.00
24 applications for re-examination @ \$5.00		120.00
31 fees for duplicate renewals @ 50c		15.50
715 applications for new shop inspection @ \$5.00	\$3,575.00	
Less 1 refund	5.00	3,570.00
331 applications for apprentice registration @ \$5.00		1,655.00
Postage26
		<u>\$27,681.76</u>

Expenditures

Salaries—Members of Board	\$ 8,000.00	
Salaries—Investigators	10,170.00	\$18,170.00
Traveling Expense—Board and Investigators		5,000.33
General Office Expenses		3,229.41
		<u>\$26,399.74</u>

Financial Statement Verified.

Approved.

GEO. E. MURPHY, *Comptroller*

Examinations have been held in Boston each month during the year, also in the cities of New Bedford, Fall River, Worcester, Springfield and Sandwich. The results are as follows:

Examination in:	Number Examined	Number Passed	Number Failed
Boston	192	174	18
New Bedford	9	7	2
Fall River	5	4	1
Worcester	12	9	3
Sandwich	5	4	1
Springfield	16	16	0
	<hr/> 239	<hr/> 214	<hr/> 25

As usual a number of complaints against registered barbers were received at this office. These complaints were referred to our Investigation Department and whenever deemed necessary, the offender was called before the Board for hearing. In addition to the complaints from outside the Department, our investigators in the course of their duties also indicated barbers who were uncooperative. Altogether it was necessary to hold 238 hearings. The result of these hearings is summarized below:

Probation	129	Filed	26
Suspension	72	Postponed	11
			<hr/> 238

After each hearing, and particularly in the cases where the sentence was suspension, the barber shops under criticism were brought up to the standard required by the Board. When our Inspection Department found this to be true, the suspension was lifted.

Continually improving conditions have reduced to a minimum the number of cases in which it was necessary to appeal to the courts for action. During this fiscal year there have been only nine such court cases. In five of these a ten dollar fine was imposed; in one of them a twenty-five dollar fine was imposed and was appealed; another barber was fined \$10.00 and \$15.00 each on two counts; one was placed on probation for two months; and another case was filed.

As we have stated in previous years, the general public must see the marked improvement which has taken place in the barber shops of the Commonwealth. Barbers generally have been most cooperative and have realized the benefits to health, as well as to pocketbook, which have arisen from maintaining their shops in the strictest sanitary condition. As usual, there have been a few offenders whom it was necessary to call before the Board for hearing, but in most of these cases, it will never again be necessary to administer discipline.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

During the last session of the Legislature, the bill for an annual registration of barber shops was again introduced. This bill received favorable consideration both by the Committee on Public Health and by the Committee on Ways and Means, but failed of passage in the Legislature. This Board has stressed in previous reports the necessity of being able to fix responsibility for the sanitary condition

of a barber shop upon the owner or manager of record. Such ownership and management can only be established by a system of registration of shops. It is estimated that there are not quite 5,000 shops in the Commonwealth. The Board has also pointed out in the past that a nominal fee of \$3.00 for such annual registration will be sufficient to care for the necessary inspection force and other expenses of such registration. Opposition from certain sections of the Commonwealth not to the value of the measure but to the fee of \$3.00 has caused its rejection by the Legislature. Each report of the State Auditor for the past few years has also advised such a measure as a means of supplying the necessary income for thus continuing and enlarging the work of the Board. The law governing the work of the Board of Registration of Hairdressers contains provisions for the registration and supervision of shops and that Department has proved the value of such supervision. It is, therefore, difficult to understand why a like provision is being refused to the Board of Registration of Barbers.

The bill will be introduced into the 1939 Legislature again and will also include recommendations for the registration of barber schools and an annual renewal of such registration. The Board also desires to increase the annual renewal fee for apprentices from fifty cents to one dollar.

A careful survey has been made of the training received by apprentices, and it is the opinion of the Board that the law should be changed to the extent of making compulsory a certain period of attendance at barber schools. Under the present law, apprentices may be trained in any barber shop under a registered barber. This makes it difficult to supervise the actual amount of instruction the apprentice is receiving and works a hardship upon the apprentice when he appears for examination. When barber schools are required to register annually and contribute to the expense of such registration, the Board will be in a better financial position to give closer attention to the important work of training apprentices.

Respectfully submitted,

TONY A. GAROFANO,	<i>Chairman.</i>
LOUIS A. PIANO,	<i>Secretary.</i>
JOSEPH FUCILLO,	<i>Member.</i>